



Amtrak worker Rich Woolfolk checks railroad tracks along the Northeast Corridor. Amtrak will resume full service in the Northeast Corridor on Monday following last week's deadly derailment, officials announced Sunday. (AP Photo/Mel Evans)

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Kerry in South Korea to talk security, cyber issues

MATTHEW LEE

AP Diplomatic Writer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry is in South Korea where he will be discussing security issues amid fresh fears of North Korean belligerence and delivering a speech on cyber policy.

Kerry arrived in Seoul on Sunday from Beijing and will see top South Korean officials on Monday, less than a week after South Korea's spy agency said North Korean leader Kim Jong Un ordered his defense chief executed with an anti-aircraft gun for complaining about the young ruler, talking back to him and sleeping during a meeting Kim presided over.

That allegation, if true, adds to concerns about the erratic nature of Kim's rule, particularly after Pyongyang claimed last weekend it had successfully test-fired a newly developed ballistic missile from a submarine. Those actions come despite a recent U.S. diplomatic overture to North Korea to discuss re-

suming denuclearization talks that have been stalled for the past three years. The U.S. quietly proposed a meeting with North Korea in January, before the U.S. and South Korea began annual military exercises that North Korea regards as a provocation. The two sides, however, failed to agree on who could meet and where. In light of the new developments, Kerry plans to reiterate America's ironclad commitment to the security of South Korea, U.S. officials said.

On Saturday in Beijing, Kerry expressed hope that the successful conclusion of a nuclear deal with Iran will send a positive message to North Korea to restart negotiations on its own atomic program. Kerry said he believed an Iran agreement could have "a positive influence" on North Korea, because it would show that giving up nuclear weapons improves domestic economies and ends isolation. He stressed, though, that there was no way to tell if North Korea's reclusive



U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry walks past an honor guard as he disembarks from his airplane upon arrival at the Seoul Military Airport in Seongnam, South Korea, Sunday, May 17, 2015. Kerry, who is on his brief trip to Asia, arrived from Beijing, China.

(Saul Loeb/Pool Photo via AP)

leadership would be able to "internalize" such a message.

International negotiators are rushing to finalize a nuclear deal with Iran by the end of June under which Iran's program would be

curbed to prevent it from developing atomic weapons in exchange for the lifting of international sanctions that have crippled its economy.

Nuclear talks with North Korea, which has already

developed atomic weapons despite previous attempts to forestall it, broke down three years ago as it has continued atomic tests and other belligerent behavior, including ballistic missile launches. □



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Amtrak to Restore Full Service in Northeast Corridor

RON TODT
Associated Press
PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The U.S. passenger train operator Amtrak will resume full service in the Northeast Corridor on Monday in "complete compliance" with federal safety orders following last week's deadly derailment, officials announced Sunday. Company president Joseph Boardman said Amtrak staff and crew have been working "around the clock" to restore service along the route between Washington and Boston

following Tuesday night's crash in Philadelphia that killed eight people and injured more than 200 others. "Our infrastructure repairs have been made with the utmost care and emphasis on infrastructure integrity including complete compliance with Federal Railroad Administration directives," Boardman said in a statement Sunday. Federal regulators on Saturday ordered Amtrak to expand use of a speed-control system long in effect for southbound trains near the crash site to northbound

trains in the same area. The agency also ordered the company to examine all curves along the Northeast Corridor and determine if more can be done to improve safety, and to increase speed limit signs along the route. Service along the corridor will resume with departures from New York City at 5:30 a.m. Monday and Philadelphia at 5:53 a.m. Monday, and all Acela Express, Northeast Regional and other services will resume for the first time since the accident, the company



Travelers make their way to departing trains at Penn Station in New York. Amtrak will resume full service in the Northeast Corridor on Monday following last week's deadly derailment, officials announced Sunday.

(AP Photo/Julie Jacobson)

said. Investigators with the National Transportation Safety Board, meanwhile, have focused on the acceleration of the train as it approached the curve, finally reaching 106 mph (171 kph) as it entered the 50-mph (80-kph) stretch north of central Philadelphia, and only managing to slow down slightly before the crash. "The only way that an operable train can accelerate would be if the engineer pushed the throttle forward. And ... the event recorder does record throttle movement. We will be looking at that to see if that corresponds to the increase in the speed of the train," NTSB member Robert Sumwalt told CNN's "State of the Union." The Amtrak engineer, who was among those injured in the crash, has told authorities that he does not recall anything in the few minutes before the derailment happened. Investigators have also been looking into re-

ports that the windshield of the train may have been struck by some sort of object, but Sumwalt said on CBS's "Face the Nation" program on Sunday that he wanted to "downplay" the idea that damage to the windshield might have come from someone firing a shot at the train. "I've seen the fracture pattern; it looks like something about the size of a grapefruit, if you will, and it did not even penetrate the entire windshield," Sumwalt said. Officials said an assistant conductor on the derailed train said she heard the Amtrak engineer talking with a regional train engineer and both said their trains had been hit by objects. But Sumwalt said the regional train engineer recalls no such conversation, and investigators had listened to the dispatch tape and heard no communications from the Amtrak engineer to the dispatch center to say that something had struck the train. □

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9 dead from Texas shootout among rival biker gangs



Law enforcement officers talk to a man near the parking lot of a Twin Peaks Restaurant Sunday, May 17, 2015, in Waco, Texas, after a shooting involving rival biker gangs. Waco police Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton told KWTX-TV there were "multiple victims" after gunfire erupted between the gang members.
(Rod Aydelotte/Waco Tribune Herald via AP)

Associated Press

WACO, Texas (AP) — Nine people were killed Sunday and some others wounded after a shootout erupted among rival biker gangs at a Central Texas restaurant, sending patrons and bystanders fleeing for safety, a police spokesman said. The violence erupted shortly after noon at a busy Waco marketplace along an interstate highway that draws a large lunchtime

crowd. Waco police Sgt. W. Patrick Swanton said eight people died at the scene of the shooting at the Twin Peaks restaurant and another person at a hospital. It's not immediately clear if any bystanders were among the dead. Others were wounded, Swanton said, but just how many and the severity of those injuries was not known.

"There are still bodies on

the scene of the parking lot at Twin Peaks," he said. "There are bodies that are scattered throughout the parking lot of the next adjoining business."

A photo from the scene showed dozens of motorcycles parked in a lot. Among the bikes, at least three people wearing what looked like biker jackets were on the ground, two on their backs and one face down. Police were standing a few feet away in a group. Several other people also wearing biker jackets were standing or sitting nearby.

Swanton said police were aware in advance that at least three rival gangs would be gathering at the restaurant and at least 12 Waco officers in addition to state troopers were at the

restaurant when the fight began.

When the shooting started in the restaurant and then continued outside, armed bikers were shot by officers, Swanton said, explaining that the actions of law enforcement prevented further deaths.

It's not known what triggered the violence but Swanton and McLennan County District Attorney Abel Reyna said tensions had simmered among rival gangs for months.

"Apparently the management (of Twin Peaks) wanted them here and so we didn't have any say-so on whether they could be here or not," Swanton said. Attempts to contact Twin Peaks for comment were not immediately successful. □

Police release video of person of interest in brutal DC slaying

WASHINGTON (AP) — District of Columbia police have released surveillance video of a "person of interest" in the slaying of a family and their housekeeper in a multimillion-dollar northwest Washington home that was set on fire. Footage that police released Saturday night appears to show a person dressed in dark clothing moving quickly behind a building. Investigators are also looking for information about a 2008 blue Porsche belonging to the family that was found set ablaze Thursday night in Prince George's County, Maryland.

Police have identified two of the victims found dead as 46-year-old Savvas Savopoulos and his 47-year-old wife Amy Savopoulos. Investigators believe the

other two victims are the couple's 10-year-old son, Philip, and a housekeeper, Veralicia Figueroa, 57, of Silver Spring, Maryland. D.C. Police Chief Cathy Lanier said all four were homicide victims, and at least three of them suffered stab wounds or blunt-force injuries. The injuries occurred before the family's home was set on fire Thursday, Lanier said.

The Washington Post reports police records show friends and relatives tried to reach the victims Thursday before they were found dead. According to the records, both Savopouloses sent text messages and voice mails to a housekeeper telling her not to come to their home to clean on Thursday, which had been her normal routine. □

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On The Stump:

Iowa Republicans hear 11 hopefuls in small doses

TRIP GABRIEL

© 2015 New York Times

DES MOINES, Iowa - They heard a paean to the newly planted corn "when hope springs eternal." They heard a promise to launch a drone attack on any American thinking of joining the Islamic State. They heard a candidate noting this was his latest stop on "the rubber-chicken circuit."

More than 1,300 Republican stalwarts at the Iowa state party's Lincoln Dinner listened to the biggest field of 2016 presidential hopefuls to visit the state so far. In tightly paced speeches of 10 minutes each, 11 contenders displayed the broad spectrum of ideolo-

gies and personal styles in the party's unsettled, chaotic race.

Retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson, whose supporters had bought nearly a dozen tables at \$750 apiece, delivered one of the most unusual speeches, describing an operation on an unborn twin whose head was dangerously swelling, meant to show his ability to solve problems despite his lack of governing experience.

The formally dressed crowd was more subdued than the audiences at gatherings of specialized interests such as evangelical Christians.

The crowd never came to its feet during the evening. Red-meat lines that draw



Donald Trump speaks during the Iowa Republican Party's Lincoln Dinner, Saturday, May 16, 2015, in Des Moines, Iowa. (AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall)

whoops in other rooms fell flat in a cavernous convention center ballroom in downtown Des Moines.

The biggest reaction of the night was to a borscht-belt line by Carly Fiorina, the former chief executive of Hewlett-Packard, about whether a woman's hormones would prevent her from serving as president. "OK, ladies, this is a test," Fiorina said.

"Can anyone think of a single instance in which a man's judgment was clouded by his hormones?" Gov. Scott Walker of Wisconsin, who broke into the top tier of candidates by exciting a conservative Iowa crowd in January, was more subdued.

Instead of a fiery description of his battles with unions, he told of a recent helicopter tour of Israel and showed a 40-year-old photograph of himself and his brother holding an Iowa flag. He had raised the money to buy it for the city hall as a child in Plainfield, Iowa.

Inviting the audience to join him in a party suite after dinner, he promised, "We've got cheese; we've

got ice cream; we've even got a Harley parked."

Jeb Bush, who earlier in the week disappointed many activists by announcing he would skip the Iowa straw poll this summer, was probably the candidate with the biggest question mark over his head.

On a sweep across the state Saturday, starting in Dubuque, Bush continued to clean up remarks he had made about the Iraq War. "I was asked a question; I answered the question wrong," Bush said after a fundraiser in Iowa City. "We're all going to make mistakes."

Bush, who is lagging in Iowa polls even as he far outstrips the field in fundraising nationally, assured Iowans that he would not skip the state if he enters the race. "I'm going to campaign here," he said. "I just don't do straw polls."

Turning the question back on reporters, he said: "Can I ask you a question? I mean, would you aspire to fourth place in anything, or sixth place? That's out of my DNA."

Earlier, in a closed-door fundraiser, Bush, whose

positions on immigration and education are out of favor with some conservatives, delivered a message that implicitly criticized the party's most ideological elements.

"We lose elections because of the harsh voices of some in our party," he said, his words audible through the walls.

He urged the Republican crowd to "get outside our comfort zone," specifically by campaigning in Latino communities and "in places that Republicans haven't been seen in a long, long while."

Few of the candidates at the Lincoln Dinner took swipes at one another. An exception was Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, who took subtle but unmistakable aim at Bush for saying last week that he would have invaded Iraq in 2003, even knowing what he knows today.

"The question was asked of one of our candidates this week: Was the Iraq War a mistake?" Paul said. He never gave his own answer. Paul also engaged in a volley with Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina over the legality of collecting bulk telephone data in the name of national security. Paul, who opposes it, said, "Must we be so frightened that we give up on what our founding fathers fought for in order to catch terrorists?"

Graham, one of the Senate's military hawks, has supported bulk data collection. It was Graham who said he would order a drone strike on Americans thinking of joining the Islamic State and dispense with getting a judge's order. □

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Congresswoman apologizes for Indian whooping-cry caricature

MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press
ANAHEIM, California (AP) — U.S. Senate candidate Loretta Sanchez apologized Sunday after a videotape surfaced showing her making a whooping cry in reference to Native Americans that brought her a cascade of reprimands from fellow Democrats.

Speaking to party activists at a state Democratic convention Sunday, Sanchez described herself as a longtime champion of civil and human rights who has Native American blood in her mother's family. She said she had a hectic day of speeches and handshaking at the convention Saturday and was not the type of politician routinely managed or sheltered by handlers.

"It's hard to put yourself out there and to do what

leaders need to do — day in and day out — and yes, sooner or later we make mistakes," Sanchez told the delegates. "In this crazy and exciting rush of meetings yesterday, I said something offensive, and for that I sincerely apologize."

The video, which was shared on social media, shows Sanchez tapping her hand over her open mouth and making a whooping sound while speaking to a group of delegates Saturday. She appeared to be making a joke about the difference between Indian-Americans and Native American Indians.

Her chief rival in the Senate race, Attorney General Kamala Harris, called the gesture shocking.

Harris, whose mother was an immigrant from India, said in a statement Saturday that "there is no place



Rep. Loretta Sanchez, D-Calif., responds to questions during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington. Sanchez apologized Sunday after a videotape surfaced showing her making a whooping cry in reference to Native Americans that brought her a cascade of reprimands from fellow Democrats.
 (AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

for that in our public discourse."

The two Democrats are the leading candidates for the seat being vacated by retiring Sen. Barbara Boxer. It was the second round of unwelcome publicity for Sanchez's campaign, which formally launched Thursday. Earlier in the week, a misfired email announced she was running for Senate, which was later recalled. That led to confusion about her intentions, although she ended up announcing her candidacy at the same time and place listed on the errant email.

The 10-term congresswoman told reporters that she would leave the convention with momentum for her campaign. □

Officer cleared in fatal US shooting wants to return

MADISON, Wisconsin (AP) — A Wisconsin police officer involved in a fatal shooting of a biracial man that has prompted protests and drawn intense public scrutiny wants to return to his job, according to his attorney, but the city's police chief said he fears for the officer's safety. Dane County District Attorney Ismael Ozanne announced Tuesday that Madison Police Officer Matt Kenny won't face criminal charges in the March 6 shooting death of 19-year-old Tony Robinson. Kenny remains on paid leave, pending an internal investigation to see if he violated Madison Police Department policies during the incident. That review could still sub-

ject Kenny to department sanctions or firing. It has not been completed, officials said, but results are expected soon. Kenny's attorney, Jim Palmer, told the Wisconsin State Journal that Kenny's desire to return is rooted in a dedication to service, pointing to the 12-year department veteran's prior time in the U.S. Coast Guard and as a lifeguard. "At his core, he is someone who is extraordinarily dedicated to helping people," Palmer said. "He feels a very deep and genuine connection to this community, and he wants to get back to serving it." But Police Chief Mike Koval told WKOW-TV he's looking at alternatives for Kenny returning to a patrol role. □





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Contested Iraqi city of Ramadi falls to Islamic State group

SAMEER N. YACCOUB

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — The contested city of Ramadi fell to the Islamic State group on Sunday, as Iraqi forces abandoned their weapons and armored vehicles to flee the provincial capital in a major loss despite intensified U.S.-led airstrikes. Bodies, some burned, littered the streets as local officials reported the militants carried out mass killings of Iraqi security forces and civilians. Online video showed Humvees, trucks and other equipment speeding out of Ramadi, with soldiers gripping onto their sides. "Ramadi has fallen," said Muhannad Haimour, a spokesman for the governor of Anbar province. "The city was completely taken. ... The military is fleeing." With defeat looming, Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi ordered security forces not to abandon their posts across An-

bar province, apparently fearing the extremists could capture the entire desert region that saw intense fighting after the 2003 U.S.-led invasion to topple dictator Saddam Hussein. Sunday's retreat recalled the collapse of Iraqi security forces last summer in the face of the Islamic State group's blitz into Iraq that saw it capture a third of the country, where it has declared a caliphate, or Islamic State. It also calls into question the Obama administration's hopes of relying solely on airstrikes to support the Iraqi forces in expelling the extremists. Earlier Sunday, al-Abadi ordered Shiite militias to prepare to go into the Sunni-dominated province, ignoring U.S. concerns their presence could spark sectarian bloodshed. By late Sunday, a large number of Shiite militiamen had arrived at a military base near Ramadi, apparently



A man walks through tents at a camp set up for displaced Iraqi refugees including those from Ramadi in Habaniyah, 50 miles west of Baghdad, Iraq.

(AP Photo)

to participate in a possible counter-offensive, said the head of the Anbar provincial council, Sabah Karhout. "We welcome any group, including Shiite militias, to come and help us

in liberating the city from the militants. What happened today is a big loss caused by lack of good planning by the military," a Sunni tribal leader, Naeem al-Gauoud, told the Associ-

ated Press. He said many tribal fighters died trying to defend the city, and bodies, some charred, were strewn in the streets, while others had been thrown in the Euphrates River. □

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Protesting Macedonians demand government's resignation

N. QENA

Associated Press

SKOPJE, Macedonia (AP)

— Tens of thousands of protesters gathered Sunday in the center of the Macedonian capital to demand the resignation of conservative Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski.

Zoran Zaev, leader of the opposition Social Democrats and the keynote speaker in the rally, claimed that more than 100,000 attended the incident-free rally.

"More than 100,000 citizens were here today and we got support from different ethnic groups of our country. This could not possibly have been organized by only one party," Zaev told The Associated Press. He said the rally was "a strong message to our government and to the prime minister to submit their resignations."

The great majority of the protesters departed Sunday night, but hundreds of opposition supporters have put up tents outside the government building, intending to stay for days.

"Freedom and democracy have no price for us. No price. And we will not stop until we see this dictator resigning," said opposition supporter Mirjana Janov.

The crowd outside the government building in Skopje chanted "goodbye Gruevski" and "resignations, resignations," and a

poster was held aloft showing Gruevski behind prison bars.

"We have come for our future. I am sending a clear message: Gruevski, don't procrastinate. leave!"

Zaev told the crowd. Former diplomats, human rights activists and journalists also spoke.

Majority ethnic Macedonians and minority ethnic Albanians mingled together in the crowd.

"I am here to say goodbye to Nikola. I want this government to leave immediately because people have suffered for too long under his regime", said Blagica Nikolova, 52, who was in the crowd.

Mirjana Najceska, a human rights activist, said the protest was about freedom: "the same freedom that my father took up arms to fight fascists for when he was 17 and who has come again here today now that he is 90."

The government of the tiny, landlocked Balkan na-



People wave national flags during a protest in front of the Government building in Skopje, Macedonia, on Sunday, May 17, 2015. Macedonian opposition started massive demonstrations Sunday in Skopje protesting against the conservative government of the Prime Minister Nikola Gruevski, demanding its resignation.

(AP Photo/Boris Grdanoski)

tion of about 2 million people is reeling from a massive, long-running wiretap scandal and a shootout a week ago between police and ethnic Albanian gunmen that left 18 dead in

a border town. In a region with a long and bloody history of ethnic conflicts and political instability, the developments have caused consternation both domestically and abroad.

In January, Zaev began releasing a cache of wiretapped conversations, and claimed that Gruevski was behind the mass wiretapping of more than 20,000 Macedonians. □

Officials:

Saudi-led coalition airstrikes resume in Yemen

AHMED AL-HAJ

Associated Press

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Yemeni security officials and witnesses say Saudi-led coalition airstrikes targeting Shiite rebels have resumed in the southern port city of Aden after the end

of a five-day humanitarian ceasefire.

The ceasefire expired at 11 p.m. (2000 GMT, 4 p.m. EDT), and the coalition airstrikes hit rebel positions and tanks in several neighborhoods of Aden, the officials said. Officials spoke

on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media, and the witnesses requested anonymity because they feared reprisals. Since late March, Saudi Arabia has led airstrikes against the Shiite Houthis

rebels and allied military units loyal to former President Ali Abdullah Saleh. The air campaign is aimed at weakening the Houthis and restoring ousted President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi, who fled the country in March. □



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Pope canonizes 2 saints from 19th-century Palestine

NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Francis canonized two nuns from what was 19th-century Palestine on Sunday in hope of encouraging Christians across the Middle East who are facing a wave of persecution from Islamic extremists.

Sisters Mariam Bawardy and Marie Alphonsine Ghattas were among four nuns who were made saints Sunday at a Mass in a sun-soaked St. Peter's Square. Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and an estimated 2,000 pilgrims from the region, some waving Palestinian flags, were on hand for the canonization of the first saints from the

Holy Land since the early years of Christianity.

Church officials are holding up Bawardy and Ghattas as a sign of hope and encouragement for Christians across the Mideast at a time when violent persecution and discrimination have driven many Christians from the region of Christ's birth.

They were canonized alongside two other nuns, Saints Jeanne Emilie de Villeneuve from France and Maria Cristina of the Immaculate Conception from Italy.

"Inspired by their example of mercy, charity and reconciliation, may the Christians of these lands look with hope to the future, fol-



Pope Francis smiles as he meets Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas during an audience at the Vatican. Pope Francis has praised Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas as an "angel of peace" during a meeting at the Vatican. Francis made the compliment during the traditional exchange of gifts at the end of an official audience in the Apostolic Palace.

(Alberto Pizzoli/Pool Photo via AP)

lowing the path of solidarity and fraternal coexistence," Francis said of the women at the end of the Mass.

Bawardy was a mystic born in 1843 in the village of Ibilin in what is now the Galilee region of northern

Israel. She is said to have received the "stigmata" — bleeding wounds like those that Jesus Christ suffered on the cross — and died at the age of 33 in the West Bank town of Bethlehem, where she founded a Carmelite

order monastery that still exists.

Ghattas, born in Jerusalem in 1847, opened girls' schools, fought female illiteracy, and co-founded the Congregation of the Sisters of the Rosary. □

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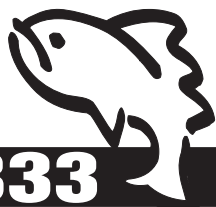


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Venezuela opposition holds primaries for legislative contest

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Venezuelan opposition candidates, campaigning on a shoestring and sometimes from behind bars, sought a chance Sunday to take part in what may be their best chance in years to defeat the country's socialist government. Turnout for the primary was expected to be low. For one thing, only 42 of the country's 167 legislative seats are in play. The other spots have already been reserved by opposition coalition leaders. For another, the date of the general election has not yet been set, though the administration of President Nico-



An opposition voter is directed towards his voting area by Bolivarian National Guards officers upon his arrival to a poll station in Caracas, Venezuela, Sunday, May 17, 2015.

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

las Maduro has pledged to hold the contest in late November or early December.

The primary also has re-

ceived little coverage in much of the pro-government press and the coalition said it's so short of funds that it asked candidates

to put up 150,000 bolivars, about \$500 at the black market rate, to finance their campaigns.

The coalition made up of 29 often squabbling parties holds about a third of the South American country's legislature. Opposition parties have not captured a legislative majority since Maduro's mentor, the late Hugo Chavez, won the presidency 16 years ago. They have decisively lost every recent national election. But the coalition how benefits from widespread discontent with Maduro, driven by mounting shortages, the world's highest inflation and rampant crime. If the election were held today, polls indicate that the

opposition would win by a landslide.

Maduro's presidency isn't up for a vote, though. His term ends in 2019.

Coalition leaders say they are capitalizing on a new wave of discontented Venezuelans by catering to younger voters who took to the streets last year for weeks of sometimes violent protests against the administration.

A third of the candidates in Sunday's primaries are younger than 40.

Some candidates in Sunday's primaries are still jailed on charges related to last year's protests, including Daniel Ceballos, the former mayor of the restive city of San Cristobal. □



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Sailboat race latest sign of better US-Cuba relations

HAVANA (AP) — U.S. sailors raced across the Florida Straits to Cuba on Saturday in a regatta propelled by strong winds and an easing of tensions between the two countries.

An amateur race billed as the "Havana Challenge" took place for the first time with U.S. government authorization thanks to the historic easing of tensions that began in December. Five 16-foot catamarans

departed early Saturday, along with 14 support boats, from Key West. They began to reach Marina Hemingway in Havana by sunset, propelled by strong winds on the 90-mile-wide Florida Straits. They planned to race Cuban sailors on Tuesday.

"It's going to be a historic event, a reunion of the sailing communities of Cuba and Florida," said Jose Miguel Diaz Escrich, com-



Crews aboard two 16-foot-long Hobie Cat sailboats sail past the Southernmost House in Key West, Fla., after the start of a more than 90-mile race to Havana, Cuba. The Havana Challenge was believed to be the first U.S. government-sanctioned sailing race between Key West and Cuba in more than 50 years. Five Hobie Cats participated in the event.

(Rob O'Neal/Florida Keys News Bureau via AP)



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modore of the Cuban Nautical Club. Diaz said the last regatta of this kind was in 2000 but couldn't be held with formal permission again because of U.S. re-

strictions on pleasure craft traveling to Cuba. One of the organizers, Joe Weatherby, said he and other participants have raced to Cuba in the past. □

Guyana swears in new president who ended foes' 23-year reign

Associated Press GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — A retired army general was sworn in Saturday as Guyana's new president after his multi-ethnic opposition coalition won the South American country's general elections and ended a 23-year reign by the People's Progressive Party. David Granger said that Guyana's democracy has been fortified and that he views himself a president for all of the people as thousands of supporters clad in the party's yellow-and-green colors cheered him outside Parliament. His party has pledged to end racial divisions that long have marked politics in Guyana, a country of nearly 746,000 people who are mainly of Indian and African descent. Granger, 69, became Guyana's eighth president since the country gained in-

dependence from Britain in 1966. He vowed to reduce high youth unemployment and violent crime as well as crack down on piracy. Guyana's elections commission said Granger's Partnership for National Unity-Alliance for Change Coalition won 207,200 votes. The People's Progressive Party got 202,674 votes. Granger's coalition will have a one-seat majority in the 65-member Parliament. The elections commission rejected a demand for a full recount from former President Donald Ramotar, who said Saturday that he would seek other measures to protest the results. Ramotar had previously suspended and dissolved Parliament to avoid a no-confidence vote, triggering early elections as his party faced accusations of corruption and mismanagement. □



Loyal Visitors Honored at the Marriott Resort and Casino

PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba at the Marriott Resort and Stellaris Casino, as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as tokens of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-to-34 consecutive years.

The honorees were Mr. Gary and Mrs. Mary Anne Burrofato of Clifton, New Jersey, Mr. Bob and Mrs. Pat Barnard of Atlanta,



Georgia, and Mr. Michael and Mrs. Patricia Donnarumma of Atlantic Beach, New York. All the honorees are loyal guests of the Marriott Resorts and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, weather, beaches, and restaurants. Aruba feels like a second home to these guests and the associates at the Marriott are like a family to them. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Christine Leo and Ms. Rosalinda Franken representing the Aruba Marriott Resorts. □





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Chef Urvin Invites You to Experience The Kitchen Table by White!

PALM BEACH - Chef Urvin Croes, born and raised in Aruba, graduated from Dutch culinary school and went on to gain experience in Michelin star restaurants in Europe. Coming back to Aruba, Chef Urvin had a dream to open Aruba's first fine dining, modern gourmet cuisine restaurant. With the opening of White Modern Cuisine in 2012, that dream came true, and White Modern Cuisine is now recognized as one of Aruba's best fine dining establishments, having been named Aruba's #1 modern cuisine restaurant and winner of numerous other culinary awards. The local and international acceptance and enthusiasm for White Modern Cuisine gave Chef Urvin the confidence and inspiration to work towards his next vision. He talks with passion about the inspiration he found in the typical Aruban and Caribbean dishes he grew up with and



how he envisioned bringing these typical tastes to a level of haute cuisine. So when he was approached by Blue Residences, right across from Eagle Beach, in the summer of 2014, he did not hesitate, opening the now most talked about gourmet restaurant, The Kitchen Table by White. At The Kitchen Table by White, Chef Urvin is revolutionizing the way vacationers and islanders regard Aruban and Caribbean cuisine. Using a monthly changing, fixed menu concept for the 16 seat res-

taurant, guests are surprised by elegant and exquisite dishes, with the option to be

perfectly paired with a wide-ranging selection of fine wine. An evening at The Kitchen Table by White is pure indulgence for all your senses. Chef Urvin and his staff prepare the meal before your eyes, and the restaurant's walls are an ever changing art gallery. Here they showcase a myriad of talented Caribbean artists, which you can enjoy if you can take your eyes off the art on your plate long enough. Open now for less than a year, the restaurant was recently named the #1 Carib-

bean restaurant on Aruba by USA Today. So, if you are a food connoisseur and appreciate the art of dining or are looking for a Caribbean culinary adventure that is on par with a Michelin star experience, The Kitchen Table is the place for you. The many glowing reviews on TripAdvisor speak for themselves. The concept of The Kitchen Table is based on one seating, fixed menu per night. All guests are requested to join at 7 PM for a sunset cocktail on the restaurant's deck. Seating at The Kitchen Table by White is limited, with only 14 reservations accepted nightly. Make your reservations early, online via reservations@ktbywhite.com, by phone 528-7015 or through the concierge at your resort. For reservations at White Modern Cuisine please call 586-1190. Truly, for food connoisseurs, these restaurants are a must-do while on Aruba. □





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Sidebar's signature burgers have been named The Sidebar, The Afterburner, The Goliath, The Texan, The Chaser, The Primal and The Italian Job and we are sure that everyone will be able to find a burger that calls out to them. The burgers come with brie cheese, prosciutto, Cheddar cheese, zucchini, sliced steak, Bourbon bbq sauce, dripping gravy and much more, depending on your order. The best thing is that these gourmet beauties cost less than \$ 15.--, so lunch or an evening out won't break the bank.

Feel love for Sidebar's burgers; they are bursting with taste— try them all and find your personal favorite. Come on down to Sidebar and rock your Wildest West with a fabulously tasty burger that packs a punch with its layers of flavor. And if you are not in a burger mood, then Sidebar has a wonderfully varied menu of all kinds of other options, ranging from vegetarian mushrooms and spinach to a zucchini cutlet to lovely salads, homemade soups, pastas and fish dishes.

Wash your lunch or dinner down with a premium, aged Bourbon or try the ice-cold beers on tap to slake your thirst. You can choose between Heineken, Balashi, Chill, Stella Artois, Miller Light or Presidente. Come inside, at the bar or sit outside on the terrace; at Sidebar there will always be a place for you.



Picture: "THE TEXAN" GOURMET BURGER

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moving in the water the molecules stick together and the water massages your skin and stimulates the tightening of your skin cells (fight against cellulite). Exercising in water is good for everybody; the pres-

sure of the water improves blood circulation and helps decrease water retention. People with muscular pains and or people with little body movement should take advantage of the Aqua fitness class at Aqua

Windie's. These classes are targeting the body, while working in improving your posture and core as well as recovering your body balance. Each activity that takes place in the water is highly

recommended to practice, because it is a distress activity which will be helping your physical condition. -Written by Yijo C. Ng, Student at the University of Aruba. □

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Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, poses with the trophy after winning the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, N.C., Sunday, May 17, 2015.

Associated Press

McIlroy finishes at 21 under, wins Wells Fargo Championship

STEVE REED

AP Sports Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) —

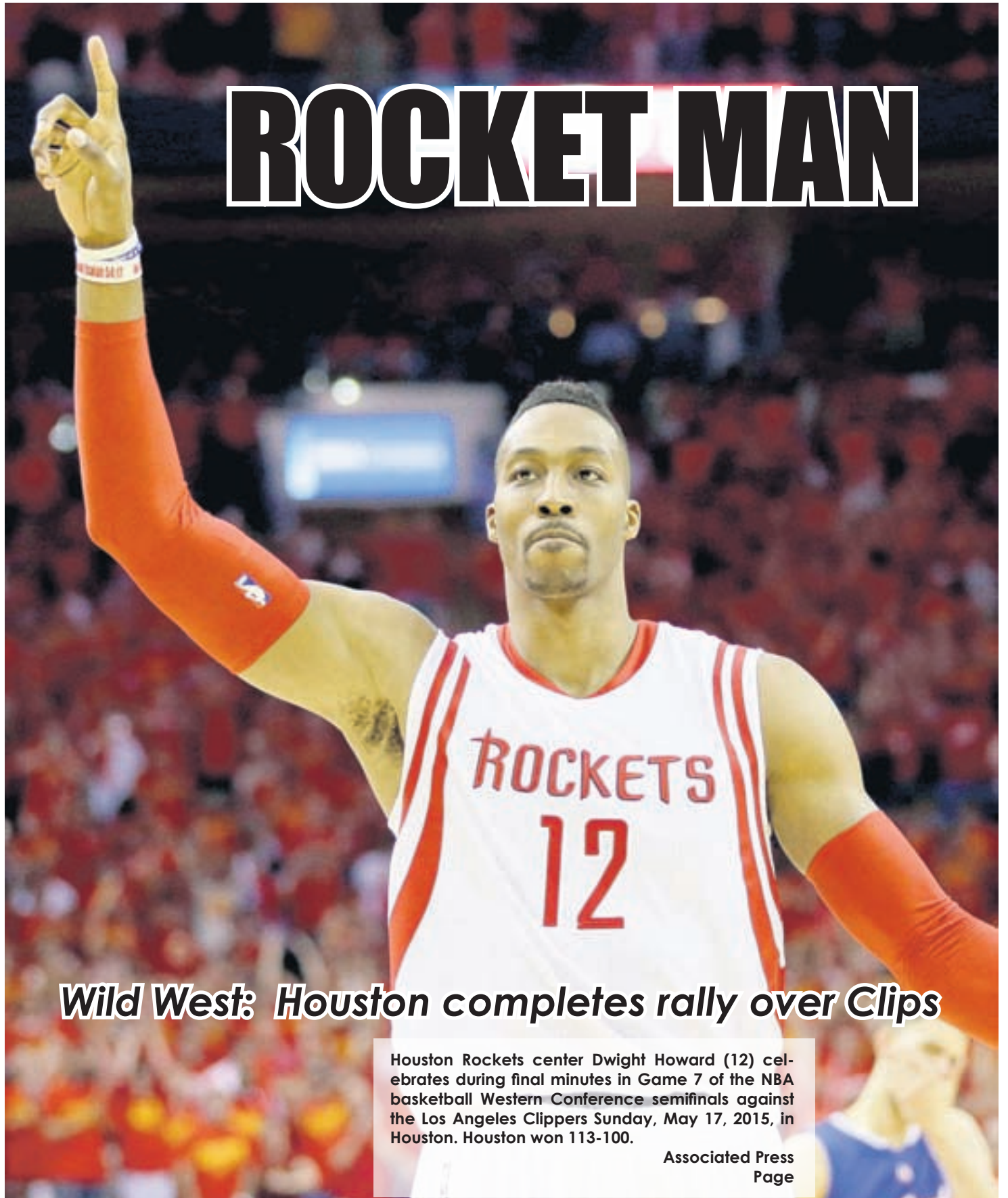
Rory McIlroy was more methodical than electrifying Sunday.

It was still effective.

Always in control, the top-ranked McIlroy became the first two-time winner in the Wells Fargo Championship with a seven-shot victory over Webb Simpson and Patrick Rodgers.

McIlroy closed with a 3-under 69 to finish at 21-under 267, shattering the tournament record by five strokes.

Continued on Next Page



ROCKET MAN

Wild West: Houston completes rally over Clips

Houston Rockets center Dwight Howard (12) celebrates during final minutes in Game 7 of the NBA basketball Western Conference semifinals against the Los Angeles Clippers Sunday, May 17, 2015, in Houston. Houston won 113-100.

Associated Press
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Mcllroy

Continued on Next Page

He entered the day with a four-stroke lead over Simpson after a course-record 61 on Saturday.

"Everything is firing on all cylinders for me," Mcllroy said.

Mcllroy also won Match Play Championship two weeks ago in San Francisco and has 11 PGA Tour titles. He has six top-10 finishes in his last eight PGA Tour starts.

Mcllroy won at Quail Hollow in 2010 for his first PGA Tour title, shooting 15 under. Anthony Kim set the previous tournament record of 16 under in 2008.

"The golf course just sets up really well for me," Mcllroy said.

Phil Mickelson called Mcllroy's performance this week "impressive."

Mcllroy had another word to describe his play on the back nine.

"Boring," he said with a laugh. Unlike his win in 2010, Mcllroy didn't finish in a flurry by carding 3s on the last six holes. On Sunday he played the last half-dozen holes in 1-under.

Then again, he didn't really need to shoot lights out with nobody chasing him.



Rory Mcllroy, of Northern Ireland, chips to the 15th green during the final round of the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, N.C., Sunday, May 17, 2015.

Associated Press

"It was a more controlled run," Mcllroy said. "I feel like I'm a more controlled player these days. I've learned how to finish things off."

Rodgers, playing on a sponsor exemption, was the only player to mount any type of a challenge, getting within three shots after a birdie at No. 15. But there was too much ground to make up, and he played the final two

holes in 3-over and finished with a 68. Simpson shot a 72.

Mcllroy almost didn't play at Quail Hollow this week, but decided he needed to play more because he needed the FedEx Cup points after the Masters. The win moved him into third place in the standings. Mcllroy got off to a shaky start with a three-putt bo-

gey on No. 2 — his first in 167 holes — but quickly pulled it together. He didn't have another bogey until the 17th hole, when he had built a seven-stroke lead and outcome was already decided.

Simpson failed to capitalize on Mcllroy's early mistake, shooting 37 on the front nine that included a double bogey on the par-3 sixth when he three-putted from 8 feet. That dropped the Charlotte resident six shots back and he was never in contention again. "He's our best player right now and I wish more than anything I could have shot a couple under on the front to make it more exciting," Simpson said. "Just didn't have it today."

Mcllroy reached 20 under on No. 12 when he knocked his approach shot from 132 yards to 2 feet of the cup for a tap-in birdie and it looked as if he might coast the rest of the way.

But Rodgers, who earned his first top-25 finish on the PGA Tour, made it interesting when he played a seven-hole stretch in 6-under par, sparked by an eagle on the par-5 10th hole. But Mcllroy didn't flinch when Rodgers drained a 15-foot putt on No. 15 to pull within three shots of the lead.

Instead, Mcllroy countered by rolling in a birdie putt on his own on No. 14, moving to 21 under and regaining a four-shot cushion.

Mcllroy then put an exclamation point on the win by drilling his approach shot from 145 yards to 3 feet on No. 16 for his tournament-record 27th birdie.

"I had a goal to go out there and birdie the par 5s and the two drivable par 4s and I knew if I made six birdies there was pretty much no chance that anybody could catch me," Mcllroy said. "With my length and the way I'm driving it, it's a big advantage around here and it showed this week." It also helped having a big lead.

"You can pick and choose where you want to be aggressive," Mcllroy said.

Rodgers ran out of gas on No. 17 when he dunked his tee shot in the water and took a double bogey to fall seven shots back. Still, it was a solid finish for Rodgers, who earned an automatic berth in The Colonial next week by virtue of his top-10 finish. "It has given me a lot of confidence moving forward," Rodgers said.

Mickelson finished in a three-way tie for fourth place at 12 under with Gary Woodland and Robert Streb. □



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Triple Crown hopeful American Pharoah healthy, but tired

RICHARD ROSENBLATT

AP Racing Writer

BALTIMORE (AP) — American Pharoah wins on dry tracks, wet tracks, any tracks.

He's won from the rail and he's won from an outside post, and now, the Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner will attempt to become the 12th Triple Crown winner and first since Affirmed in 1978.

So, Bob Baffert, what kind of track surface would you prefer for the Belmont Stakes on June 6?

"I want the same track Secretariat had," he joked on a humid Sunday morning just outside the Pimlico stakes barn. "Give me a Secretariat track. I'll take that."

Of course, Baffert was referring to the 1973 Triple Crown champion who won the Belmont by a mind-boggling 31 lengths.

The 62-year-old trainer will try for an unprecedented fourth time to sweep the Derby, Preakness and Belmont, while jockey Victor Espinoza will be the first rider with a third chance to pull off the feat.

Baffert stood next to American Pharoah as the colt had the white wraps around his legs hosed off. All seemed well with the Triple Crown hopeful. The ear plugs? Still in.

"He looks fine. He's a little quiet. He's a little tired, like he's supposed to be after a race," Baffert said after he and Espinoza appeared on the "Today Show." "That's usually him. Health-wise he looks good. No changes. No surprises."

Baffert said American Pharoah would be sent to Churchill Downs on Monday for a week of rest and

relaxation and resume training at the Louisville, Kentucky, track before traveling to New York. His arrival date is scheduled for Wednesday, June 3.

"It's hard for me to imagine I'm going through this again," said Baffert, back in the Triple chase for the first time in 13 years, when War Emblem lost his chance when he stumbled at the start of the Belmont and finished eighth. "I can't believe this is the fourth time I'm doing this, and how lucky I've been."

"All I can do is rely on my experience going to the next one. I know what to expect; I know how difficult it is. With a horse like this it makes my job a lot easier. You see the way he moves. He just floats. He's effortless."

American Pharoah won the Preakness by seven lengths over a sloppy track in a driving rainstorm. Baffert's take? "He's by Pioneer of the Nile, and it was like he was running in the Nile."

The track was drenched. Baffert said jockey Gary Stevens, who was aboard seventh-place finisher Firing Line, told him with all the water in his boots and soaked into his saddle pad, he weighed 135 pounds after the race. With equipment and rider, horses carry 126 pounds for the Preakness.

While American Pharoah is scheduled for the Belmont, Baffert said the colt has to be perfectly sound before making the trip to New York.

"Everything has gone really smooth, other than that hiccup in the Breeders' Cup," Baffert said, referring to a leg injury that kept

American Pharoah out of the BC Juvenile. "So we just got to keep our fingers crossed, keep him healthy and keep him happy. I don't want to go up there with a tired horse. Right now, he's tired. He went through a lot with that rain and all that and still doing what he did carrying a lot of weight. □



Trainer Bob Baffert rubs the head of Preakness Stakes winner American Pharoah outside the stakes barn, Sunday, May 17, 2015 at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore.

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Rockets back in conference finals first 1st time since '97

By KRISTIE RIEKEN

AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) -- James Harden scored 31 points, Dwight Howard had 16 points and 15 rebounds and the Houston Rockets never trailed in a 113-100 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Sunday, sending them to the Western Conference finals for the first time since 1997.

It's the ninth time in NBA history that a team has overcome a 3-1 series deficit to win a playoff series.

The Rockets needed an epic comeback to overcome a 19-point third-quarter deficit and force Game 7. No such heroics were needed Sunday when they were up by 17 after three and Howard

opened the fourth quarter with a 3-point play to push it to 88-68.

Blake Griffin scored five points in a 9-0 run to cut the lead to eight points with less than 2 1/2 minutes remaining. Harden made a pair of free throws after that, but a dunk by DeAndre Jordan got the Clippers within eight again. This time Trevor Ariza hit a 3 from the corner to secure the victory.

Griffin had 27 points and Chris Paul had 26 points and 10 assists.

The Western Conference finals begin Tuesday night at Golden State.

Ariza finished with 22 points and made six 3-pointers.

Every fan in the arena was given a red shirt emblazoned with the words

"Clutch City" in yellow letters, bringing back the moniker of the 1994 and '95 teams that won back-to-back titles. These Rockets lived up to the nickname, winning their third straight game to become the first team to win a playoff series after trailing 3-1 since the Phoenix Suns did it in 2006 against the Lakers.

After taking a two-game lead after four games the Clippers looked destined to be heading to the conference finals for the first time in franchise history. But they failed in all three chances to put Houston away and are now left to ponder their collapse as they head home early yet again.

Los Angeles never led, but tied it at twice in the first 4



Houston Rockets center Clint Capela (15) dunks against the Los Angeles Clippers during the first half in Game 7 of the NBA basketball Western Conference semifinals Sunday, May 17, 2015, in Houston.

Associated Press

minutes. The Clippers insisted Saturday that they'd gotten over Thursday's loss, but looked listless early in this one as Houston built the lead.

Little went right for the Clippers for most of the game and when a dunk by Jordan early in the fourth quarter simply bounced out of the rim, the big man could only look at the basket in disgust. The frustration was evident with Paul too, as he angrily threw the ball after picking up an offensive foul later in the fourth.

Harden was under the weather and on the bench in the fourth quarter when Josh Smith and Corey Brewer helped Houston outscore Los Angeles 51-20 to close out the win in Game 6. The MVP runner-up looked back to full strength on Sunday, scoring 12 points in the first quarter and finishing

with eight assists and seven rebounds.

A 3-pointer by Jamal Crawford with about 2 1/2 minutes left in the third quarter cut the lead to eight points. Houston scored the next nine points, with five from Trevor Ariza, to push it to 83-66.

Pablo Prigioni grabbed two straight steals from Griffin in that span. Griffin fell to the court on the second one and shook his head as Prigioni darted away with the ball. Crawford made a layup for L.A. but Harden shook off Austin Rivers and stepped back for a jump shot near the buzzer to leave Houston up 85-68 entering the fourth.

The Clippers opened the second half with an 11-4 run, with five points from Paul, to get to 60-57 with 8 1/2 minutes left in the third quarter. □



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Andersen's Ducks knock off Blackhawks 4-1 in WCF opener

By GREG BEACHAM

AP Hockey Writer

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) -- Frederik Andersen lunged forward and stretched out his stick, taking a desperate chance to stop Patrick Kane. The Chicago star's shot somehow glanced off Andersen's lumber and flew over a painfully open net.

Andersen kept the Anaheim Ducks in the Western Conference finals opener while his teammates got rolling. When they did, the Ducks streaked out to yet another early series lead. Hampus Lindholm, Nate Thompson and Jakob Silfverberg each had a goal and an assist, and the Ducks beat the Blackhawks 4-1 in Game 1 on Sunday. Andersen made 32 saves and Kyle Palmieri also scored as the Ducks opened their first conference finals in eight years by improving to 9-1 in these Stanley Cup playoffs. Although the Blackhawks clearly are a major step up in competition, the Ducks' confidence grew with a strong all-around performance backed by brilliance from their imposing Danish goalie. "I think everyone in the locker room knows we can beat this team," said Andersen, who's in his second NHL season. "It's a good feeling that we showed it in Game 1. They're going to come harder. We'll have to play better in Game 2." Game 2 is Tuesday night in Anaheim.

Andersen had to be stellar under a heavy barrage of high-quality shots from the Blackhawks, who had won five straight postseason games heading into their third straight conference finals. Kane scored seven goals in the first two rounds, but could only shake his head on the bench after Andersen's phenomenal stick save in the first period.

"He's a battler, and you saw that on numerous saves he had tonight where it seemed like we had a good chance to score and he gets a leg or a stick on it," Kane said. "We knew that was the scouting report on him. Just got to bear down a little bit more on those opportunities." Brad Richards scored late in the second period and Corey Crawford stopped 23 shots for Chicago, which hadn't lost since April 23. Both teams' offensive stars were shut down in the franchises' first postseason meeting, but the Ducks' supporting cast took over the scoring, capped by Silfverberg's empty-net goal with 1:18 left. Andersen also made a handful of spectacular saves in the third when Chicago pressed after Thompson made it 3-1 with 7:55 to play in a sequence created by speedy Andrew Cogliano. "The way we were all able to contribute and help out definitely bodes well for our team," Thompson said. "We've always had good depth. It's one of the reasons we've been successful here." These powerhouse teams both entered the series with prolonged momentum and plenty of rest: The Blackhawks never trailed in their second-round series sweep of Minnesota while reaching their third straight conference finals, while Anaheim steamrolled through the Pacific Division bracket with just one overtime defeat. The Blackhawks had the last 10 days off, and the Ducks had a full week off after disposing of Calgary in five games. "They played a patient game," Chicago forward Brandon Saad said of the Ducks. "We came out and ... had a pretty good start and felt good about ourselves, but throughout the second and third

period it got progressively worse, and they took advantage." The clubs matched strengths from the opening minutes, with Ducks center Ryan Kesler chasing Chicago captain Jonathan Toews in a continuation of their long-running rivalry. Chicago's only injury problem was magnified: With Michal Rozsival out for the season with a broken ankle, defenseman David Rundblad made his playoff debut - and he was on the ice for the Ducks' first two goals. Anaheim scored midway through the first period when Silfverberg made a sharp pass to Lindholm, and the Swedish defenseman put a big shot through traffic for his second goal of the postseason. Chicago controlled long stretches of early play with its speed, but Andersen made 16 saves - none prettier than that diving stick deflection on Kane. "We didn't play so good in the first, but I thought the rest of the game, we were dominant," Kesler said. "Took it to them." Palmieri made it 2-0 early in the second with his first goal of the postseason, converting a pass from Thompson and sliding through the crease on his back in celebration. Rundblad and Johnny Oduya both failed to clear the puck before the decisive sequence. Richards finally broke through in the final minute of the second, forcing a turnover by Francois Beauchemin and putting a fierce shot under Andersen's arm for his second postseason goal. Honda Center employees worked all night to prepare for the unusually early start time. Kanye West headlined a show in the building Saturday night, and arena staffers finished grooming the ice three hours before warmups. □



Anaheim Ducks goalie Frederik Andersen, of Denmark, stops a shot during the third period in Game 1 of a Western Conference finals hockey series against the Chicago Blackhawks, Sunday, May 17, 2015, in Anaheim, Calif.

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FRI 5:35 | 7:35 | 9:35 | 11:35
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Djokovic beats Federer for Rome title; Sharapova also wins

ANDREW DAMPF
AP Sports Writer

ROME (AP) — Top-ranked Novak Djokovic bolstered his clay-court credentials a week ahead of Roland Garros with a convincing 6-4, 6-3 win over Roger Federer on Sunday to capture his fourth Italian Open title.

Extending his winning streak to 22 matches, Djokovic proved too consistent and too quick for Federer, who has never won the title at the Foro Italico in 15 appearances.

"It was a great week and today was my best match," Djokovic told the crowd in Italian. "It's always a pleasure to play against Roger and obviously I'm very pleased by today. ... Along with 2011, this is the best year of my career. I don't know how (to) continue at Roland Garros but obviously I have a lot of confidence. I hope I can continue like this."

Djokovic produced a spectacular return to set up the decisive break at the end of the first set then got an early break in the second. The match lasted just 75 minutes.

"Novak was too strong today," Federer said. "I know I can play better. Novak was rock solid today."

In the women's tournament, Maria Sharapova rallied to beat 10th-seeded Carla Suarez Navarro 4-6, 7-5, 6-1 and win her third Rome title.

The victory gives Sharapova confidence as she prepares to defend her title at the French Open, which



Serbia's Novak Djokovic celebrates with sparkling wine after winning the final match at the Italian Open tennis tournament, in Rome, Sunday, May 17, 2015.

starts next weekend.

The French Open is the only Grand Slam that Djokovic has never won, and he will enter as the favorite this year considering Rafael Nadal's recent struggles.

"I don't think I need to go and do anything more special for Roland Garros," Djokovic said. "I just need to keep going on (this) route."

Djokovic also won the Rome title in 2008, 2011 and last year.

Handed a marker to sign a TV camera lens after the match, Djokovic wrote in Italian, "Grazie ancora Roma" — Thanks again

Rome — surrounded by a heart.

With the temperature soaring above 30 Celsius (about 90 Fahrenheit) at the Foro Italico, Djokovic won most of the long rallies.

The first set was decided by just a few points. Leading 5-4, Djokovic produced a spectacular forehand return cross-court winner that landed on the line to set up a break point, then closed it out when Federer netted a backhand after a long rally.

The only real problem for Djokovic came after the trophy presentation when a champagne cork

popped prematurely and appeared to graze his forehead.

"We had an argument, Mr. Champagne and I," Djokovic. "He threw a punch and I won't forget it."

Sharapova's first two titles in Rome came back-to-back in 2011 and 2012.

"It's always a special victory," Sharapova said during the trophy presentation. "It isn't my first time but when I'm able to hold the trophy again it brings back memories of winning it the first time."

Sharapova struggled for long stretches to figure out



Suarez Navarro's variation of spins, slices and heavy topspin shots — with a one-handed backhand that was difficult to read.

But once the second-seeded Sharapova started stepping into the court, attacking the Spaniard's serve and finding the corners, she took control.

The match lasted more than 2 1/2 hours and Sharapova hit 39 winners to Suarez Navarro's 12.

For her 35th career title, and 11th on clay, Sharapova celebrated mildly with a smile and a few fist pumps.

"I remember coming to Italy as a little girl and this was one of the tournaments I dreamed of playing," Sharapova said. "Now to win it for a third time is very special."

Suarez Navarro was playing her third final of the year — and for the third time she finished runner-up, following performances in Antwerp, Belgium; and Miami. □

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Prying parents: Phone monitoring apps flourish in S. Korea

YOUKYUNG LEE

AP Technology Writer
SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— Lee Chang-june can be miles from his 12-year-old son but still know when he plays a smartphone game. With the press of an app he can see his son's phone activity, disable apps or totally shut down the smartphone.

The app, "Smart Sheriff," was funded by the South Korean government primarily to block access to pornography and other offensive content online. But its features go well beyond that.

Smart Sheriff and at least 14 other apps allow parents to monitor how long their kids use their smartphones, how many times they use apps and which websites they visit. Some send a child's location data to parents and issue an alert when a child searches keywords such as "suicide," "pregnancy" and "bully" or receives messages with those words.

In South Korea, the apps have been downloaded at least 480,000 times.

The number will likely go up. Last month, South Korea's Korea Communications Commission, which has sweeping powers covering the telecommunications industry, required telecoms companies and parents to ensure Smart Sheriff or one of the other monitoring apps is installed when anyone aged 18 years or under gets a new smartphone. The measure doesn't apply to old smartphones but most schools sent out letters to parents encouraging them to install the software anyway. Many countries have safety filtering tools for the Internet but it is rare to enforce them by law. Japan



A promotional banner of mobile apps that block harmful contents, is posted on the door at a mobile store in Seoul, South Korea, Friday, May 15, 2015.

enacted a law in 2009 but unlike South Korea it allows parents to opt out. South Korea's new system is by no means impervious. For one, it can only be fully applied to Android phones not Apple Inc. phones. But cybersecurity experts and Internet advocacy groups argue the monitoring infringes too far on privacy and free speech. Some warn it will produce a generation inured to intrusive surveillance.

"It is the same as installing a surveillance camera in teenagers' smartphones," said Kim Kha Yeun, a general counsel at Open Net Korea, a nonprofit organization that is appealing the regulator's ordinance to South Korea's Constitutional Court. "We are going to raise people who are accustomed to surveillance." South Korea, one of the Asia's richest nations, is crisscrossed by cheap fast Internet and smartphone use is ubiquitous. Many Koreans

get their first smartphone when they are young. Eight out of 10 South Koreans aged 18 and below own a smartphone, according to government data. Some 72 percent of elementary school students owned a smartphone in 2013, a jump from 20 percent in 2011.

How technology is affecting the young has become a national obsession. The government and parent groups have pushed numerous initiatives to limit device and Internet use as well as prevent excessive gaming. Many parents welcome the ability to peer inside their children's online world.

Lee, who worked in the online game industry for nearly a decade, said that having a control over his son's smartphone has been positive and increased dialogue in the family. His son plays a mobile game about two hours on weekends. If he wants to play a mobile game outside those

and father will know which app you use," he said. "I see it as positive in helping nurture his habit of self-control."

Legal experts, however, say South Korea's telecoms regulator has taken the sweeping step of legalizing the broad collection of personal, sensitive data that belongs to teenagers without any public consultation or consideration of the possible consequences.

"South Korea underestimated the chilling effect," said Kang Jeong-Soo, director at Institute for the Digital Society.

Cyber security experts also warn that the apps could be misused and installed on phones without the owner's knowledge.

"It could be an official spying app," said Ryu Jong-myeong, CEO of SoTIS, a cyber security company. To get around the regulations, some students say they will wait until they turn 19 to get a new phone. "I'd rather not buy a phone," said Paik Hyunsuk, 17. □

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Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory recalls a false buyout bid similar to one at Avon

MATTHEW GOLDSTEIN
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Bryan J. Merryman, the chief financial officer of the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, says it is far too easy for a potential stock manipulator to gain access to a federal securities database and submit a false takeover bid for a company.

In a case that parallels a situation involving Avon Products last week, Rocky Mountain, a small retailer of chocolate candies and other confectionery products that is based in Colorado, was the target of what proved to be fake buyout offer from a previously unknown investment firm that claimed to be located in London. Merryman said his company, a relatively small business by market value, spent too much time and money investigating the case in December 2012.

"It was ludicrous," Merryman said. "We had to respond to it and investigate it, get our attorneys involved, even though we knew this was fraudulent." He said the fake bid might never have occurred if the Securities and Exchange Commission had stronger safeguards to check the backgrounds of investment firms and individuals who are permitted to send filings to the agency's Edgar database.

"All you have to do is submit a form," Merryman said.

The issue of just how much vetting the SEC does of applicants who seek permission to submit filings to the Edgar system is in the spotlight after what was apparently a fraudulent takeover bid for Avon Products. The bid to buy Avon was submitted Thursday morning by another previously unknown British investment firm over the Edgar online system.

The SEC issued a statement Thursday evening that said, "Filers are responsible for the truthfulness of their filings, and they are subject to enforcement actions when they are false

or misleading." Regulators say they will investigate the matter.

But the SEC did not clarify what checks are made on investment firms and individuals who apply for access codes to Edgar. Several people with knowledge of the Edgar application process said the SEC did not conduct much vetting beyond confirming that the



Monique Banta, left, and Angela Walden at their Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory franchise in Burlington, Wash. Bryan J. Merryman, the chief financial officer of the company, says it is far too easy for a potential stock manipulator to gain access to a federal securities database and submit a false takeover bid for a company, as happened to Rocky Mountain in 2012.

(Jordan Stead/The New York Times)

application was complete and had been notarized. Notaries public, who are issued licenses in the states where they operate, typically charge fees of \$10 or less to put a stamp on a document and vouch for the authenticity of a signature.

The idea of relying on a notary public to verify the identity of a signer of a public filing may seem like something from the era of the television show "Mad Men." But in 2004, when the SEC adopted the requirement, it was seen as something of a leap forward by regulators.

Before 2004, Edgar access applications were submitted to the SEC on paper, generally by mail. The SEC rule change permitted applicants to file online for Edgar access codes as long as the signature on the application was verified by a notary.

The requirement was not popular at the time. Most of the two dozen comment letters on the rule change

raised objections.

Sullivan & Cromwell, a New York law firm that represents many of Wall Street's biggest financial firms, said in its comment letter that the notary requirement would create an "administrative burden" and was unnecessary "in light of the penalties already provided for under the federal securities law for false or mis-

leading statements."

In adopting the rule, the SEC said it had considered the objections but concluded that "human intervention in the current non-automated process helps to assure authenticity."

The rule change took place well before the advent of high-speed algorithmic trading.

Often, traders seek every edge to react to headlines about regulatory filings, many of which are quickly disseminated by wire services like Reuters and Bloomberg with little reporting. It is why some like Merryman now suggest that the SEC needs to do more to discourage false filers from getting access to Edgar.

Officials with the SEC say they believe there is a trade-off if they do anything that might extend the application process and potentially slow the release of information, said a person briefed on the matter who spoke on condition of anonymity. □

Fair Game: Shareholder votes have done little to curb CEO's paychecks

GRETCHEN MORGENSON
© 2015 New York Times

It's been five years since the Dodd-Frank law required that companies let investors vote on their executive pay practices. The idea, lawmakers said, was to give shareholders a chance to sound off when compensation plans are not in their best interests.

But has putting these matters to a vote done anything to rein in executive pay? Not a chance. Since these votes started being tallied, CEO pay has risen on average 12 percent annually.

There are several reasons "say on pay," as it is known, has had little impact on executive compensation. One may be that the votes are not binding.

"Say-on-pay, as an advisory vote, has the biggest impact where the corporate law regime allows for consequences if the board doesn't listen," said Naizam Kanji, director of the office of mergers and acquisitions at the Ontario Securities Commission in Toronto. "Where boards are more immune to pressure because corporate law is not as shareholder-friendly, the power of say-on-pay is not as great."

But perhaps the biggest reason is that few shareholders are expressing unhappiness with compensation levels at the nation's top companies.

Last year, for example, the median shareholder support for pay practices at the 500 largest companies was 95 percent of the shares voted, according to a ranking compiled by the Shareholder Forum, an independent creator of programs to help investors make sound decisions. The vote ranking, based on data from Equilar, a compensation analysis company in Redwood City, California, shows that overall support has risen from 93.8 percent in 2011.

This apparent satisfaction with pay may be a result of the rising stock market. Shareholder dissent, when it does crop up, typically occurs at companies that have awarded lush compensation even as their performance has lagged. Investors watching their shares go up are less likely to be outraged by a sizable bonus or stock grant.

Still, among the most generous companies, shareholders' discontent is percolating. Last year, 15.9 percent of the shares voted at the 100 top-paying companies were nays, compared with 15.4 percent in 2013. And among the companies whose votes have occurred in 2015, the dissent figure has increased to 18.4 percent.

Gary Lutin, a former investment banker at Lutin & Co. who oversees the Shareholder Forum in New York, said the say-on-pay rankings provided great value to investors.

"They're really a perfect gauge of management's respect for the company's shareholders, measured by the shareholders," he said. "Whether the voting is based on specific management practices or on the effort management made to explain that conduct, it reflects the level of respect management has shown for the investors whose money they used to pay themselves."

Consider the 10 companies with the highest pay in 2014. Given the opportunity to vote on earlier pay packages, shareholders at four of them expressed widespread discontent. (To be included here, the companies had to have been public for at least two years and their top executives in place for that period.)

Continued on page 27

The Center-Right Moment



DAVID BROOKS
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The most surprising event of this political era is what hasn't happened. The world has not turned left. Given the financial crisis, widening inequality, the unpopularity of the right's stances on social issues and immigration, you would have thought that progressive parties would be cruising from win to win.

But, instead, right-leaning parties are doing well. In the United States, Republicans control both houses of Congress. In Israel, the Likud Party led by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pulled off a surprising win in an election that was at least partly about economic policy. In Britain, the Conservative Party led by Prime Minister David Cameron won a parliamentary majority. What's going on here?

Well, there are some issues in each election specific to that country, but there are a few broader trends to be observed. The first is that the cutting-edge, progressive economic arguments do not seem to be swaying voters.

Over the past few years, left-of-center economic policy has moved from opportunity progressivism to redistributionist progressivism. Opportunity progressivism is associated with Bill Clinton and Tony Blair in the 1990s and Mayor Rahm Emanuel of Chicago today. This tendency actively uses government power to give people access to markets, through support for community colleges, infrastructure and training programs and the like, but it doesn't interfere that much in the market, and it hesitates before raising taxes.

This tendency has been politically successful. Clinton and Blair had long terms. This year, Emanuel won by 12 percentage points against the more progressive candidate, Chuy Garcia, even in a city with a disproportionate number of union households.

Redistributionist progressivism more aggressively raises taxes to shift money down the income scale, opposes trade treaties and meddles more in the marketplace. This tendency has won elections in Massachusetts (Elizabeth Warren) and New York City (Bill de Blasio) but not in many other places. Ed Balls, the No. 2 figure in the Labour Party in Britain, co-lead the group from the Center for American Progress that wrote the most influential statement of modern progressivism, a report on "inclusive prosperity." Balls could not even

retain his own parliamentary seat in the last election.

The conservative victories probably have more to do with the public's skepticism about the left than with any positive enthusiasm toward the right. Still, there are a few things that center-right parties have done successfully. First, they have loudly (and sometimes offensively) championed national identity. In this era of globalization, voters are rewarding candidates who believe in their country's exceptionalism.

Second, they have been basically sensible on fiscal policy. After the financial crisis, there was a big debate over how much governments should go into debt to stimulate growth. The two nations most associated with the "austerity" school - those who were suspicious of debt-based stimulus - were Germany and Britain. This will not settle the debate, but these two nations now have some of the strongest economies in Europe and their political leaders are in good shape. Third, these leaders did not over-read their mandate. Cameron in Britain promised to cut the size of government, and he did, from 45.7 percent of GDP in 2010 to 40.7 percent today, according to The Economist. The number of public-sector jobs there has gone down by 1 million. But he made these cuts without going overboard. Public satisfaction with government services has gone up. And there have been some sensible efforts to boost those at the bottom. As The Economist pointed out, "The richest 10 percent have borne the greatest burden of extra taxes. Full-time workers earning the minimum wage pay a third as much income tax as in 2010. Overall, inequality has not widened - in contrast to America."

The British electorate and the U.S. electorate sometimes mirror each other. Trans-Atlantic voters went for Reagan and Thatcher together and Clinton and Blair together. In policy terms, Cameron is a more conservative version of President Barack Obama. Cameron's win suggests the kind of candidate that would probably do well in a general election in this country. He is liberal on social policy, green on global warming and pragmatically conservative on economic policy. If he's faulted for anything, it is for not being particularly ideological, although he has let his ministers try some pretty bold institutional reforms to modernize the welfare state. Globally, voters are disillusioned with large public institutions. They seem to want to reassert local control and their own particular nationalism (Scottish or anything else). But they also seem to want a slightly smaller public sector, strong welfare state reform and more open and vibrant labor markets as a path to prosperity. For some reason, U.S. politicians are fleeing from this profile, Hillary Clinton to the further left and Republicans to the right. □



The Bitter Backdrop to 2016



FRANK BRUNI
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Already the polling for the presidential race is feverish, with new findings daily. Which Republican is leading in New Hampshire? How do voters feel, at any evanescent moment, about Hillary Clinton?

But there's a climate in the country that's larger than any contender, strangely resistant to the sorts of ups and downs that a campaign endures and as crucial to the outcome of the election as the clash of personalities that commands the lion's share of our attention.

It's a mood of overarching uncertainty and profound anxiety. And it's so ingrained at this point that we tend to overlook it.

For a stunningly long period now, American voters have been pessimistic about the country's future - and their own. They sense that both at home and abroad, we have lost ground and keep losing more.

And the presidency may well be determined not by any candidate's fine-tuned calibration on hot-button issues or by cunning electoral arithmetic. It may hinge on eloquence, boldness and a bigger picture. If one of the aspirants can give credible voice to Americans' insecurity and trace a believable path out of it, he or she will almost certainly be victorious.

In a column a year ago, I noted that for a solid decade, the percentage of Americans who said

that the United States was on the wrong track had exceeded the percentage who said that it was on the right track, according to polling by NBC News and The Wall Street Journal. I wondered about a change in the very psychology and identity of a country once famous for its sunniness about tomorrows.

Since then the NBC News/Wall Street Journal poll has asked the right track/wrong track question another 10 times, and "wrong track" has continued to prevail without interruption and by substantial margins. The split as of two weeks ago was 62 percent to 28 percent.

Other polls have yielded similar findings even as unemployment dropped and the recession faded ever further from view.

Some projections validate voters' gloom. In The Washington Post recently, Robert Samuelson observed that while the U.S. economy expanded at an average annual rate of 4 percent from 1950 to 1973, it's predicted to grow just 2.1 percent annually over the next decade. The 6 percent increases that weren't uncommon in the 1990s are apparently long gone.

"We can't do much about this," Samuelson wrote, citing the retirement of baby boomers and the spread of new technologies that could sideline workers.

The latter dynamic is the focus of a new book, "Rise of the Robots," that's about as scary as the title suggests. It's not science fiction, but rather a vision (almost) of economic Armageddon.

Its author, Martin Ford, invokes robots as a metaphor for the technological innovations, including better software and sophisticated algorithms, that have or will put machines in jobs once held by people. Computers, he notes, can now perform legal, pharmaceutical and medical work. They can produce journalism.

In a conversation Tuesday, he

told me: "If you automate all of these jobs, and technology drives down wages, then consumers have less purchasing power, which can lead to a downward economic spiral."

Lead to? We've known ample spiraling already, and the context for Americans' apprehensions is a flourishing debate about whether the American moment is over.

The title of a gathering of professors, politicians and writers at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C., later this week asks: "Is the United States at a Crossroads?" Specific panels will mull related questions: "America's Decline: Myth or Reality?" and "Is the United States Still the 'Indispensable Nation'?"

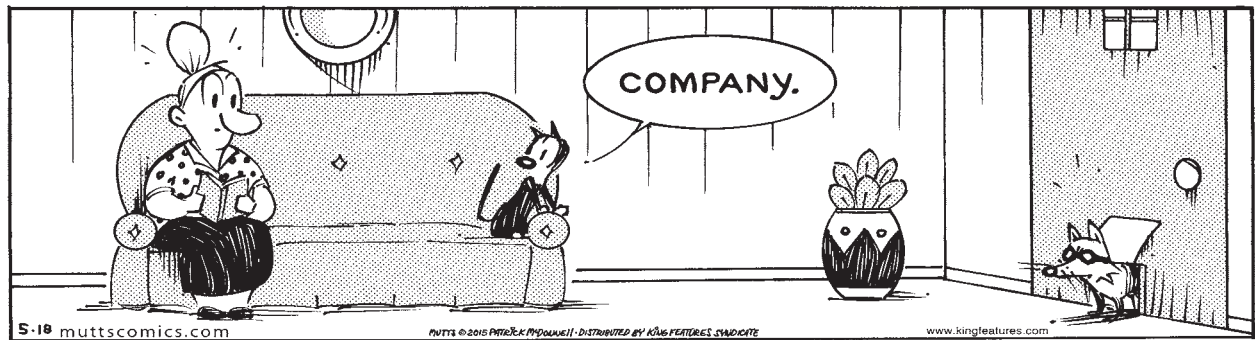
In The Times last month, Jonathan Weisman interviewed officials involved in the spring meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank and noted that "concern is rising in many quarters that the United States is retreating from global economic leadership."

The economist Edwin Truman, who worked in the Obama administration, told Weisman: "We're withdrawing from the central place we held on the international stage."

This sense of American drift, of American sputtering, informs President Barack Obama's current push for a sweeping trade agreement and his support for energy exploration, including drilling in the Atlantic and the Arctic. He's after some economic juice.

It will inform the 2016 presidential election, too. Politicians and voters will wrangle in the foreground over taxes, the minimum wage, student debt, immigration. But in the background looms a crisis of confidence that threatens to become the new American way. Let's hope for a candidate with the vision and courage to tackle that.

Mutts



6 Chix



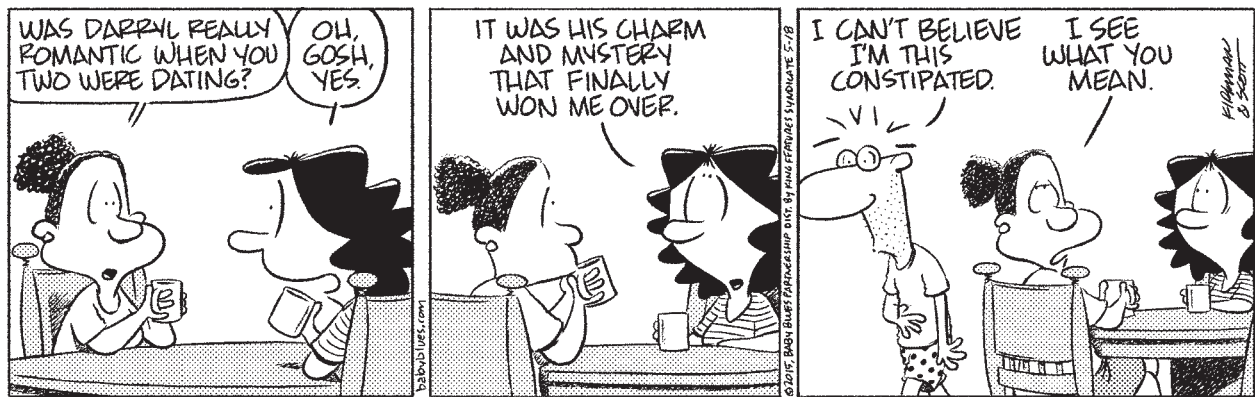
Blondie



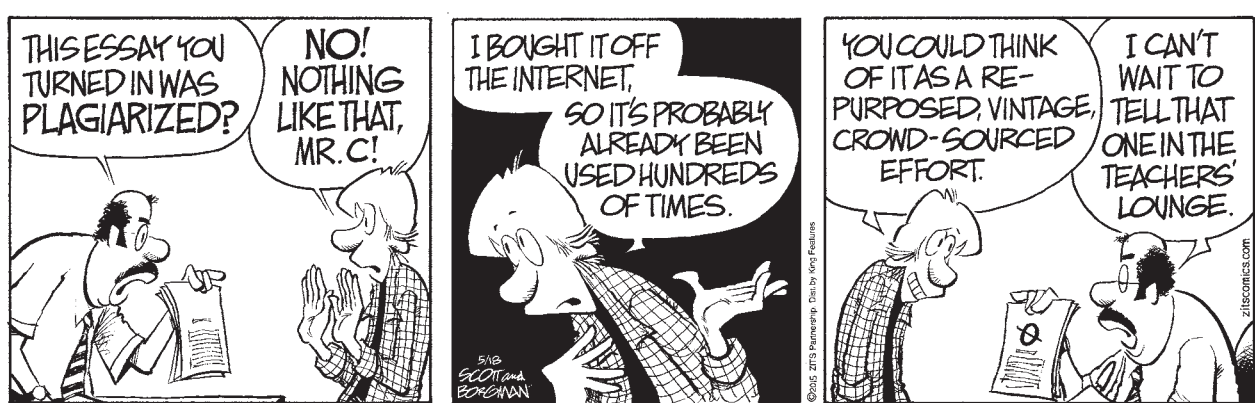
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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

	3		8			4	9	
9				2	1			5
		7	4					3
5		8			3		2	
	1						4	
	6		7			3		9
3					6	9		
8			1	7				2
	7	4			9		1	

Difficulty Level ★

5/18

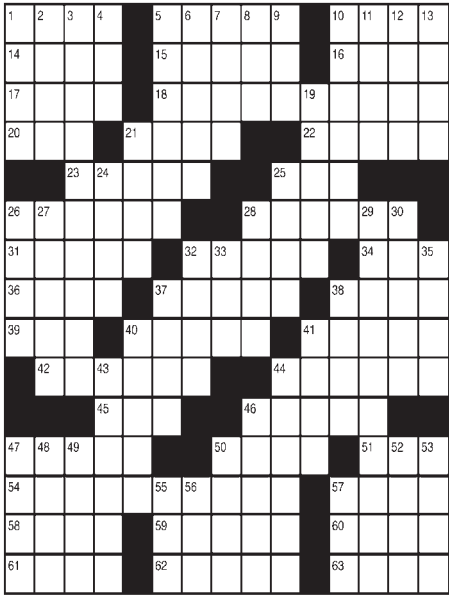
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Saturday's puzzle answer

1	6	9	3	4	2	7	5	8
4	8	3	5	6	7	2	9	1
2	7	5	1	8	9	3	4	6
7	9	6	2	3	8	4	1	5
8	5	4	6	7	1	9	2	3
3	1	2	4	9	5	6	8	7
6	2	8	7	5	4	1	3	9
5	3	1	9	2	6	8	7	4
9	4	7	8	1	3	5	6	2

ACROSS

- 1 Family member
5 Go separate ways
10 ___ for; sympathize with
14 Enthusiastic
15 Give a speech
16 Gangster
17 Linear measure
18 Giving an okay
20 Cool ___ cucumber
21 A-F connection
22 Sty cries
23 Remedies
25 ___ the birds; ridiculous
26 Poor person
28 Extends one's subscription
31 Permit
32 Assumed name
34 Stop ___ dime
36 ___ lights; marquee's rim
37 Back's opposite
38 Chew like a beaver
39 Wildebeest
40 Wanderer
41 BPOE building
42 School writing assignments
44 Hug
45 Cookware item
46 "Fantastic!"
47 "Take a hike!"
50 Marries
51 Blood analysis site
54 Nutritious
57 Very excited
58 Bulling shouts
59 Washing machine cycle
60 Individuals
61 Commanded
62 ___ wool; Brillo
63 Likelihood



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

5/18/15

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

JAR	ARDOR	ITS A
OVEN	SIEVE	NEAR
BEAU	COLES	SALT
SPARE	TIRE	IRKS
NUNS	MRS	
PLACID	SABOTAGE	
ALLEN	GULLY	TAX
CABS	SLIDE	LOPE
EMU	ARENA	FINER
DAMAGING	SAFEST	
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OARS	NAIVE	NEAT
SHOE	KNEES	GASH
SUMS	ASSET	STE

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5/18/15

DOWN

- 1 Poet Angelou
2 Gardner's namesakes
3 Beyond earthly explanation
4 Didn't ___ up; made no sense
5 National sport of Brazil
6 Nudges
7 Path
8 "___ a jungle out there!"
9 Peg for Trevino
10 Clothing
11 Goatee's place
12 Good-looking young man
13 Omelet maker's needs
19 Lunchtimes
21 Prepare tea
24 "When You Wish ___ a Star"
25 Skillful deed
26 Sharp pain
27 Coeur d' ___, ID
28 Orange peel
29 Place in Alice's dream
30 Nylon mishaps
32 Upper limbs
33 Hawaii's Mauna ___

- 35 Astounds
37 Auto racer A.J.
38 Clinton's VP
40 Judd or Watts
41 Trips around the track
43 Meager
44 Short thick club
46 Good judgment
47 Highbrow
48 Soft drink
49 Regretted
50 Merlot or rosé
52 Elderly
53 Bony fish
55 Yrbk. section
56 Punch
57 Hair gel, e.g.

Fair game

Continued on page 24

The company receiving the largest dissent - 54 percent - was Oracle. Its shareholders have long complained about how much the board pays Lawrence J. Ellison, its founder. Second on the dissent list was David M. Zaslav, chief executive at Discovery Communications and the highest-paid CEO in the nation. He received compensation worth \$156 million last year, a 368 percent increase over 2013.

At last year's annual meeting, when investors had information on Zaslav's compensation for 2013, 41 percent of the voted shares rejected Discovery's pay practices.

Another case in point: David T. Hamamoto, chief executive of Northstar Realty Finance, a real estate investment company. Some 39 percent of the votes cast at the company's 2014 annual meeting were against its executive pay, but Hamamoto's \$60 million package for last year was an increase of 227 percent over 2013.

Then there's Leonard Schleifer, the chief executive of Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, a biopharmaceutical company. He received \$42 million in compensation last year, a 15 percent increase; 38 percent of the votes cast at the 2014 shareholders' meeting disapproved of the company's pay practices.

A spokeswoman for Regeneron defended its pay practices by noting its high-performing stock price. Nevertheless, she said that after the shareholder vote, the board reduced the top executives' options grants by 16 percent and also began limiting perquisites to its CEO and chief scientific officer.

None of the other companies would comment. Of the 20 companies awarding the highest pay, nine put their pay

to a shareholder vote only once every three years, the minimum required under Dodd-Frank. Far more common is an annual vote; among the top 200 companies on the pay list, roughly three-quarters let shareholders vote annually.

If you look at the companies that have encountered the greatest dissent on pay, eight of the 200 received nays totaling at least 54 percent of the shares voted at their annual meetings in 2014. But four of them gave raises to their chief executives that year. Chipotle Mexican Grill, the restaurant chain, was one. Although 77 percent of the shares voted last year were against its pay, both of the company's co-chief executives received 15 percent increases in 2014.

Chris Arnold, a spokesman for Chipotle, said this big thumbs-down led the company's board to change its policies, such as reducing the grant-date value of stock to be awarded in 2015.

Shareholders appreciated the changes, Arnold added. At the company's annual meeting Wednesday, 95 percent of the votes cast supported the company's pay. □

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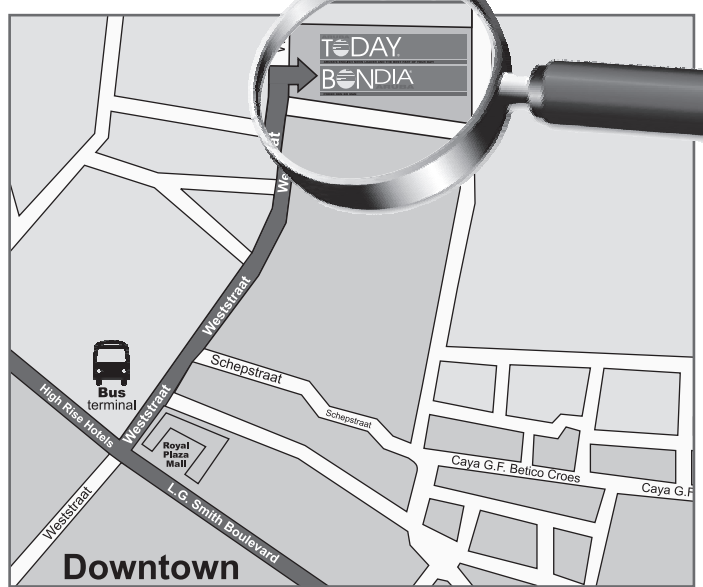
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U.S. says decade-old Gulf oil leak could last another century

By ERIC TUCKER
MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) -- For more than a decade, oil has been leaking into the Gulf of Mexico where a hurricane toppled a drilling company's platform off the coast of Louisiana. Now the federal government is warning that the leak could last another century or more if left unchecked.

Government estimates obtained by The Associated Press provide new details about the scope of a leak that has persisted since Hurricane Ivan in 2004.

Taylor Energy Co., which owned the platform and a cluster of oil wells, has played down the extent and environmental impact of the leak.

The company also maintains that nothing can be done to completely eliminate the chronic oil slicks that often stretch for miles off the Louisiana coast.

Taylor has tried to broker a deal with the government to resolve its financial ob-



In this Sept. 16, 2004 file photo, waves crash against a sailboat lodged under a bridge in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., after Hurricane Ivan struck the gulf coast.

Associated Press

ligations for the leak, but authorities have rebuffed those overtures and have ordered additional work by the company, according to Justice Department officials who were not authorized to comment by name and spoke on condition of anonymity.

"There is still more that can be done by Taylor to control and contain the oil that is discharging" from the

site, says an Interior Department fact sheet obtained by the AP.

Federal regulators suspect oil is still leaking from at least one of 25 wells that remain buried under mounds of sediment from an underwater mudslide triggered by waves whipped up by Hurricane Ivan.

A Taylor contractor drilled new wells to intercept and plug nine wells deemed

capable of leaking oil. But a company official has asserted that experts agree the "best course of action ... is to not take any affirmative action" due to the risks of additional drilling.

An AP investigation last month revealed evidence that the leak is far worse than Taylor, or the government, has publicly reported during a secretive response to the slow-motion spill.

The AP's review of more than 2,300 Coast Guard pollution reports since 2008 showed a dramatic spike in sheen sizes and oil volumes since Sept. 1, 2014.

That reported increase came just after federal regulators held a workshop last August to improve the accuracy of Taylor's slick estimates and started sending government observers on a Taylor contractor's daily flights over the site.

Presented with AP's findings, the Coast Guard provided a new leak estimate that is about 20 times greater than one recently touted by the company. In a

February 2015 court filing, Taylor cited a year-old estimate that oil was leaking at a rate of less than 4 gallons per day.

A Coast Guard fact sheet says sheens as large as 1.5 miles wide and 14 miles long have been spotted since the workshop. Since last September, the estimated daily volume of oil discharged from the site has ranged from roughly 42 gallons to 2,329 gallons, with a daily average of more than 84 gallons.

Some experts have given far greater estimates of the leak's extent.

Based on satellite imagery and pollution reports, the watchdog group SkyTruth estimates between 300,000 and 1.4 million gallons have spilled from the site since 2004, with an annual average daily leak rate between 37 and 900 gallons.

Marylee Orr, executive director of the Louisiana Environmental Action Network, said Taylor must be held responsible for stopping the leak "even if it takes 100 years." □

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'Pitch Perfect 2' leaves 'Mad Max: Fury Road' in the dust

LINDSEY BAHR

AP Film Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The ladies of "Pitch Perfect 2" hit all the right notes opening weekend, amassing a \$70.3 million debut, according to Rentrak estimates Sunday.

The Elizabeth Banks-directed sequel to the 2012 sleeper hit and video-on-demand phenomenon cost Universal Pictures only \$29 million to produce and was expected to open in the \$50 million range. The first film, for comparison, grossed only \$65 million domestically across its entire run.

"It's aca-awesome," said Universal Pictures' President of Domestic Distribution Nick Carpou, using one of the catchphrases of the film about a capella singing. "We knew that the film would be a success, but there's something that happens when movies grow in their success beyond a range that's easily predictable. When that happens, the sky's the limit."

Audiences for the musical comedy starring Anna Kendrick and Rebel Wilson were 75 percent female and 62 percent under the age of 25, according to

Universal.

Carpou attributed some of the massive success to savvy positioning and the widespread appeal of the popular music and the charismatic, diverse cast. He noted that ads during the NBA playoffs and a Super Bowl spot helped to grow the film's audience base.

George Miller's critically acclaimed "Mad Max: Fury Road" landed a distant second in its debut weekend with a solid and expected \$44.4 million from 3,702 locations. The high-octane, post-apocalyptic film cost a reported \$150 million to make and stars Charlize Theron and Tom Hardy.

Although it cost significantly more than "Pitch Perfect 2" to produce and didn't come close to matching its opening, "Mad Max: Fury Road" still had a promising and successful first weekend in theaters — especially considering the fact that it is R-rated.

"We're very excited about the opening," Warner Bros. President of Domestic Distribution Dan Fellman said. "We're going to have some long legs and some great success on this movie."

The film, which also played



This photo released by Universal Pictures shows, Anna Kendrick as Beca, in a scene from the film, "Pitch Perfect 2."

Associated Press

in IMAX and 3D, is one of the best reviewed in the studio's history. Fellman said that many of the showings ended with applause, only adding to the hope that word of mouth will contribute to a lengthy and successful run.

Audiences for the film were

70 percent male and 46 percent under the age of 35, according to Warner Bros.

For Rentrak's Senior Media Analyst Paul Dergarabedian, the weekend is an undisputed success for both studios.

"Mad Max: Fury Road" also

made \$65 million internationally, bringing its worldwide total to \$109.4 million.



"Each film absolutely found its target audience," Dergarabedian said. "They were running on parallel tracks, and both exceeded expectations by not cannibalizing each other."

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Cannes swoons for 'Carol,' Todd Haynes' '50s lesbian romance

By JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

CANNES, France (AP) -- "Carol," Todd Haynes' 1950s lesbian romance with Cate Blanchett and Rooney Mara, had the Cannes Film Festival swooning after its premiere. The long-in-development adaptation of Patricia Highsmith's novel was received rapturously at Cannes for its tale of an illicit love between two women in conservative '50s New York. Speaking to reporters Sunday, Blanchett said "Carol" is more than a period piece.

"We're living in deeply conservative times," said Blanchett, noting that in many countries, homosexuality is still illegal. "And if we think otherwise, then we're very foolish."

"Carol," based on Highsmith's 1952 novel "The



From left, actress Rooney Mara, director Todd Haynes, and actress Cate Blanchett pose for photographers upon arrival for the screening of the film Carol at the 68th international film festival, Cannes, southern France, Sunday, May 17, 2015.

Associated Press

Price of Salt," was one of the most anticipated films at Cannes and emerged a likely contender for the

Palme d'Or and, later in the year, the Academy Awards. The Weinstein Co. will release it Dec. 18 in the

U.S. The eroticism of "Carol" comes largely through subtle, hidden gestures, but

Blanchett and Mara were asked about shooting the film's tasteful sex scene. Blanchett, a mother of four, said being naked hasn't been as much an issue for her since giving birth with "a lot of strangers."

"It's an important scene," she said.

Mara added: "I'm nude quite often so it wasn't a big deal for me."

Blanchett also added her voice to the growing chorus over sexism in Hollywood.

"It's important to keep talking about it," said Blanchett. "It fell off the agenda and I think we lost a lot of ground."

The screenwriter Phyllis Nagy didn't contradict her, but added a note of optimism.

"Nothing has changed and everything has changed," Nagy said. "We can have this movie now." □

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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers

Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the RIO Hotel, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also

available at their Tobacco farm where their cigars are grown and rolled. Winner of the best of Aruba. The best local product. Cigars in Tubes Arubian design.

For a group or private tour, call 586-7833 / 593-6177 or send them an email at aruhibacigars@gmail.com www.aruhibacigars.com



Owner Benjamin Petrocchi

PANERAI

LABORATORIO DI IDEE.



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